Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/676,095

Attorney Docket No.: Q56074

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the last paragraph on page 10, bridging to page 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The first mean/variance calculating unit 202 calculates the mean and variance of the pixel values of an original image, μ_0 and σ_0. (step 302). Next, the filtering unit 204 obtains m × n filtered images using ~~Garbor~~ <u>Gabor</u> filters, each having a unique combination of one of m scales and one of n orientations (m and n are predetermined positive integers) (step 304). Then, the second mean/variance calculating unit 206 calculates the means and variances of the respective filtered images μ_{11}, σ_{11}, μ_{21}, σ_{21} ..... μ_{mn}, σ_{mn} (step 306).

Please replace the sixth full paragraph on page 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The filtering unit 402 obtains m × n filtered images with respect to two arbitrary images using ~~Garbor~~ <u>Gabor</u> filters, each having a unique combination of one of m scales and one of n orientations (m and n are predetermined positive integers) (step 502).

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the above-described embodiment, it has been described that the matching metric is obtained by calculating the sum of absolute differences in the mean of the pixel values and the sum of absolute differences between the variances of the pixel values, and calculating the minimum value of an added value of the calculated sums, with respect to an arbitrary filtered

image and images filtered by ~~Garbor~~ <u>Gabor</u> filters having orientation coefficients different

from those of filters used for filtering the arbitrary image.